Name _____

Only Positives Answer Key

1. $x^{-2} = \frac{1}{x^2}$
2. $\frac{b^2}{a^2}$
3. m^6
4. $\frac{q^2}{p}$
5. $\frac{1}{rs}$
6. $2x^2$
7. $\frac{z^3}{y^3}$
8. $2ab^3$
9. $\frac{d^3}{c^4}$
10. $2m^3 \div n = \frac{2m^3}{n}$

Teacher's Guide

- Quick implementation tips
  - Remind students to rewrite every negative exponent as a positive exponent before combining like bases.
  - Encourage students to check that no negative exponents remain in the final answer.
- Differentiation strategies
  - Have students use two steps: first rewrite with positive exponents, then simplify.
  - Challenge advanced students to justify each simplification using exponent rules.
- Engagement ideas
  - Ask students to highlight each negative exponent before solving.
  - Let partners compare intermediate rewrites before completing the final simplification.
- Extension activities
  - Have students create two rational expressions with negative exponents for a classmate to simplify.
  - Ask students to explain why the final answer is typically written with positive exponents in Algebra I.